

**Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0010

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # C-094 - Airfield Lighting Control Vault
{Current}
Property Date: 1953
Address(s): Jensen Street {}
County/Independent City: Accomack
City: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: CHINCOTEAGUE WEST
Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Roof	Roof - Flat		Roof - Not visible
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Concrete	other
Windows	Windows - Fixed	Steel	other
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		

Site Description: Located on a sloping grassy hill south of runway 10-28.

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Air-Related	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Air-Related

Est. Date of Construction: 1953 {Owner/written data} Accessed? Yes
Primary Resource? Yes Number of Stories: 1.0
Architectural Style: Other Condition: Good
Interior Plan Type: Other Threats to Resource: None Known
Description: This concrete building is L-shaped in plan and has a poured concrete slab foundation and a flat roof; the roof materials are not visible. The poured concrete wall surfaces have been incised with a series of vertical lines and a single horizontal line that aligns with the top edge of the windows and door. The two windows openings, which appear to be original, each contain a three-pane window that has two fixed upper panes and a lower awning steel sash. A single steel door with a window containing three fixed panes is located on the west elevation. Three small vents are located just below the roof edge on the east elevation.

Cemetery Information

Bridge Information

National Register Eligibility Information

Historic Context(s): Military/Defense

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Historic Time Period(s):..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

Significance Statement: This one-story building, built in 1953, houses controls and equipment for runway lighting and general illumination, a function that is consistent with its original use. The building first appears as "A-52 Field Lighting Vault" on the 1953 "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by the U.S. Navy. It was later identified as "C-94" on the 1957 "General Development Plan – Naval Air Station, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by the U.S. Navy. The building is located on the northern side of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) main base, directly south of the main east-west runway and behind the Fire Prevention/Proc. Fac. Building (001-0027-0009, WFF # C-15), near the end of Stubbs Avenue.

The building is representative of a secondary resource associated with a Military/Defense property type that gained importance in the New Dominion (1945-present) period. The building was one of several buildings constructed as part of the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS) shortly after the end of World War II. Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the U.S. Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the U.S. Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility, with a primarily research-based mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the base was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station. The building has essentially retained its original use throughout its history on the base.

The Airfield Lighting Control Vault has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

As an individual resource, it is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D as it is not associated with a significant event or individual at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The resource retains its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Although remaining in its historic location, the building's integrity of setting and association have been adversely affected by the changes made to the surrounding setting of the base of which it was a part; by 2004 the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the building's historic context.

Bibliographic Documentation

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Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia."
1950.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: Giffles and Valet

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary
Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 3

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test
Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21524	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 18-22

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event # 1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2003/08/08

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814

CRM Event # 2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2004/07/99

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878